

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-45 (Canceled).

46. (Currently amended) A method of delivering a postal mailpiece to a recipient postal address which is unique to an addressee, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting a proxy address on the postal mailpiece wherein said proxy address is defined by a set of presentation protocols that distinguish said proxy address from other addresses, and said entire proxy address does not change upon the change of the recipient postal address, wherein said set of presentation protocols comprise mnemonics or intuitive elements that relate to the recipient;

using the detected proxy address to obtain through a database query applying said addressing protocols, the recipient postal address from a database of recipient postal addresses and associated recipient proxy addresses, the addresses within the database being defined by postal recipients associated with the addresses; and

affixing the obtained recipient postal address to the postal mailpiece so that the mailpiece can be delivered to a physical address corresponding to the obtained recipient postal address.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said addressing protocols comprise mnemonics representing a category in which a related physical address belongs.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein said step of detecting the proxy address comprises detecting a symbol on the postal mailpiece that corresponds to said predefined proxy addressing protocol.

49-71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently amended) A system for delivering a postal mailpiece comprising:

a computer readable storage medium, said storage medium comprising a database of proxy addresses and associated recipient postal addresses, the addresses within the database being defined by postal recipients associated with the addresses and the associated proxy addresses each having the characteristic of not changing in their entirety upon the change of each associated recipient postal address, wherein said proxy addresses comprise mnemonics or intuitive elements that relate to the recipient; and

a first database interface computer coupled to said storage medium by a communication medium, said first database interface computer inputting a proxy address obtained from the postal mailpiece, said first database interface computer accessing said database with said input proxy address to obtain an associated recipient postal address, wherein the postal mailpiece is subsequently delivered to a physical address corresponding to said obtained recipient postal address.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72, wherein said first database interface computer affixes said obtained recipient postal address on the postal mailpiece.

74. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72, wherein said communication medium is a computer network.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72, wherein said communication medium is the Internet.

76. (Previously presented) The system of claim 72, further comprising a second database interface computer coupled to said computer readable storage medium by a second communication medium, said second database interface computer providing a means for recipients to modify addresses within said database.

77. (Previously presented) The system of claim 76, wherein said second database interface computer allows a recipient associated with a first proxy address and a first recipient postal address to modify the first recipient postal address without modifying the first proxy address.

78. (Previously presented) The system of claim 76, wherein said second database interface computer allows a recipient associated with a first proxy address and a first recipient postal address to modify the first proxy address without modifying the first recipient postal address.

79. (Previously presented) The system of claim 76, further comprising a third database interface computer coupled to said computer readable storage medium by a third communication medium, said third database interface computer providing a means for recipients to register with said system and become authorized to modify addresses within said database.

80. (Canceled)

81. (Canceled)

82. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a machine-readable storage medium having stored therein indicia of a plurality of machine-executable control program steps, the control program comprising the steps of:

detecting a proxy address on a postal mailpiece, said proxy addresses comprising mnemonics or intuitive elements that relate to the recipient;

using the detected proxy address to obtain a recipient postal address from a list of recipient postal addresses and associated recipient proxy addresses; and

delivering the mailpiece to a physical address corresponding to the obtained recipient postal address, wherein proxy addresses contained within the list are defined by postal recipients associated with the proxy addresses, and wherein an associated proxy address has a characteristic of not changing upon the change of an associated recipient postal address.

83. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 82, wherein the control program further comprises the step of modifying the list of recipient postal and proxy addresses by recipients authorized to modify the list.

84. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 82, wherein said step of detecting the proxy address comprises detecting an identifier on the postal mailpiece that corresponds to a predefined proxy addressing protocol.

85-91. (Canceled)

92. (New) A method of delivering a postal mailpiece to a recipient postal address which is unique to an addressee, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting a proxy address on the postal mailpiece wherein said proxy address is defined by a set of presentation protocols that distinguish said proxy address from other addresses, and said entire proxy address does not change upon the change of the recipient postal address, wherein said set of presentation protocols are created, modified and updated by the recipient;

using the detected proxy address to obtain through a database query applying said addressing protocols, the recipient postal address from a database of recipient postal addresses and associated recipient proxy addresses, the addresses within the database being defined by postal recipients associated with the addresses; and

affixing the obtained recipient postal address to the postal mailpiece so that the mailpiece can be delivered to a physical address corresponding to the obtained recipient postal address.

93. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein said addressing protocols comprise mnemonics representing a category in which a related physical address belongs.

94. (New) The method of claim 92, wherein said step of detecting the proxy address comprises detecting a symbol on the postal mailpiece that corresponds to said predefined proxy addressing protocol.

95. (New) A system for delivering a postal mailpiece comprising:

a computer readable storage medium, said storage medium comprising a database of proxy addresses and associated recipient postal addresses, the addresses within the database being defined by postal recipients associated with the addresses

and the associated proxy addresses each having the characteristic of not changing in their entirety upon the change of each associated recipient postal address, wherein said proxy addresses are created, modified and updated by the recipient; and

a first database interface computer coupled to said storage medium by a communication medium, said first database interface computer inputting a proxy address obtained from the postal mailpiece, said first database interface computer accessing said database with said input proxy address to obtain an associated recipient postal address, wherein the postal mailpiece is subsequently delivered to a physical address corresponding to said obtained recipient postal address.

96. (New) The system of claim 95, wherein said first database interface computer affixes said obtained recipient postal address on the postal mailpiece.

97. (New) The system of claim 95, wherein said communication medium is a computer network.

98. (New) The system of claim 95, wherein said communication medium is the Internet.

99. (New) The system of claim 95, further comprising a second database interface computer coupled to said computer readable storage medium by a second communication medium, said second database interface computer providing a means for recipients to modify addresses within said database.

100. (New) The system of claim 99, wherein said second database interface computer allows a recipient associated with a first proxy address and a first recipient postal address to modify the first recipient postal address without modifying the first proxy address.

101. (New) The system of claim 99, wherein said second database interface computer allows a recipient associated with a first proxy address and a first recipient postal address to modify the first proxy address without modifying the first recipient postal address.

102. (New) The system of claim 99, further comprising a third database interface computer coupled to said computer readable storage medium by a third communication medium, said third database interface computer providing a means for recipients to register with said system and become authorized to modify addresses within said database.

103. (New) A method of delivering a postal mailpiece to a recipient postal address which is unique to an addressee, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting a proxy address on the postal mailpiece wherein said proxy address is defined by a set of presentation protocols that distinguish said proxy address from other addresses, and said entire proxy address does not change upon the change of the recipient postal address, wherein said set of presentation protocols comprise mnemonics or intuitive elements that relate to the recipient and is created, modified and updated by the recipient;

using the detected proxy address to obtain through a database query applying said addressing protocols, the recipient postal address from a database of recipient postal addresses and associated recipient proxy addresses, the addresses within the database being defined by postal recipients associated with the addresses; and

affixing the obtained recipient postal address to the postal mailpiece so that the mailpiece can be delivered to a physical address corresponding to the obtained recipient postal address.

104. (New) A system for delivering a postal mailpiece comprising:

a computer readable storage medium, said storage medium comprising a database of proxy addresses and associated recipient postal addresses, the addresses within the database being defined, created, modified and updated by postal recipients associated with the addresses and the associated proxy addresses each having the characteristic of not changing in their entirety upon the change of each associated recipient postal address, wherein said proxy addresses comprise mnemonics or intuitive elements that relate to the recipient; and

a first database interface computer coupled to said storage medium by a communication medium, said first database interface computer inputting a proxy address obtained from the postal mailpiece, said first database interface computer accessing said database with said input proxy address to obtain an associated recipient postal address, wherein the postal mailpiece is subsequently delivered to a physical address corresponding to said obtained recipient postal address.